

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 DECEMBER 1985

PLO Affairs

A PLO statement carried by Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio voiced the organization's "great disapproval and indignation" over U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' tour of West European and other countries, asserting that Shultz "unequivocally exposed" U.S. involvement in recent Israeli "terrorist operations." Maintaining that Shultz' tour was meant to destroy the PLO's "positive role" and to distort the image of its struggle, the statement noted the "courageous stand" of Italian President Bettino Craxi and expressed appreciation for Yugoslavia's rejection of "U.S. pressure."

Abu Dhabi's *AL-ITTIHAD*, citing an official Palestinian source, reported that the Soviet Union has invited the PLO leadership to visit Moscow and that Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is "expected" to lead the delegation.

Iran-Iraq War

The new offensive Iran is preparing poses a "serious threat" to stability in the Gulf area and to world peace, Iraqi Foreign minister Tariq 'Aziz warned in a memorandum to UN officials cited by INA. The foreign minister pointed out that Iran is currently repeating the steps that foreshadowed the major offensive in the spring of 1985, pointing specifically to Iran's recent "false claims" of Iraqi air attacks on civilian targets. Meanwhile, although the Iraqi General Command communiques carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio 18 and 19 December made no reference to air actions, an Iranian Joint Staff communique reported by IRNA claimed that Iranian antiaircraft fire forced two flights of Iraqi planes to flee, one over Kurdistan province and the other over Khuzestan.

Lebanon

The meetings of Lebanese Forces, Progressive Social Party, and Amal Movement representatives in Damascus have been adjourned "pending resolution of all disputed issues," Beirut radio reported, adding that the participants' positions have remained unchanged.

Kuwait

The Soviet deputy defense minister, who will arrive 21 December leading a "high-level" military delegation, will bring an exhibit of "advanced" Soviet weapons which will be examined for their suitability for the Kuwaiti Armed Forces, KUNA reported.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Karmal Chairs PDPA Politburo Regular Meeting 20 Dec
LD200941 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
 20 Dec 85

[Text] The regular session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

At this session, a report was heard on the participation of the DRA delegation of peace, solidarity, and friendship organization, headed by Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, in the session of the AAPSO Bureau Presidium held in Athens.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo has highly and positively assessed the result of the activities of the DRA delegation and the meetings which took place between the Afghan delegation and the participants of the session, in particular with the general secretary of the Greek Communist Party [word indistinct]. The Politburo regards the decisions taken in the session of the AAPSO Bureau Presidium as an effective step to enhance the role and international credibility of AAPSO and to further solidarity between Afro-Asian people.

Regarding the increasing role of the DRA in the anti-imperialist movement of the Afro-Asian people, Babrak Karmal said:

The decisions and resolutions of the AAPSO Bureau Presidium state clearly that the DRA has been transformed into an institution reflecting the solidarity of the people in the struggle for peace, progress and social justice.

We are determined to have a greater and more outstanding role in securing the unity of action of the people, in particular the Afro-Asian people, in the struggle against imperialism, war, injustice, and backwardness.

The people of our country, with all-round readiness, will endeavor to implement the measures envisaged in the AAPSO session in the DRA.

At this session of the PDPA Central Committee, a report on call-up, conscription, and consolidation of the DRA Armed Forces, was also heard and specific instructions were given to the relevant officials.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also approved the proposal of the DRA Council of Ministers concerning the appointment of esteemed Shah Nazar Helmandwal as governor of Helmand Province, and esteemed Shaykh Muhammad Aziz Ahmadi as governor of Bamian Province and Comrade Qamaroddin as governor of Lowgar Province.

At this session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, a series of other domestic and international issues were also discussed.

Commission Created To Handle Returning Refugees
LD192016 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
 19 Dec 85

[Text] In consideration of the readiness of compatriots to return to the homeland and on the basis of the instructions and guidance embodied in the theses of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council; the statement of the DRA Revolutionary Council dated 1 October 1985; and the resolutions of the 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, and in consideration of the text of the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium dated 18 June 1981, which is still in force, the DRA Council of Ministers recently formed a commission to organize the repatriation of compatriots and refugees.

The commission was formed in order to organize matters connected with the giving of assistance, the creation of facilities for (? them), and financial security for those compatriots who are going to return to their ancestral homeland.

It is mentioned in the decisions of the Council of Ministers that the work procedure, duties, and responsibilities of the commission to organize the repatriation of compatriots and refugees will be drafted in consideration of the following points:

The adoption of measures to resolve the complex issues relevant to the return of compatriots and refugees;

The organization of work for the honorable return of compatriots to the homeland with serious observance of and respect for their dignity and personal honor;

Coordination of the activities of the relevant organs in connection with the creation of favorable conditions and circumstances for the return of compatriots; and

The creation of necessary living conditions for repatriated families, the provision of work, the return of land and their honorable welfare.

Mujahidin Sentenced to Death as Military Deserter
LD191911 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
 19 Dec 85

[Text] At an open judicial session today, charges were brought against Abdul Qahar, son of Gul Zaman, inhabitant of Shewaki, Bagrami district, Kabul Province. A former NCO in the border regiment, he was arrested by a self-defense group and accused of abandoning his post and joining the criminal and counterrevolutionary band of Mowlawi Yunis Khalis, of attacking security posts and government convoys, of firing missiles at the Qalach and Benchisar power stations, of carrying out attacks on homes of the Muslim inhabitants of the Shohaday-e Salehin District attached to the ninth ward of Kabul City, and of martyring two brothers, Farid and Feraydun, the sons of Muhammad Ali, inhabitants of Shohaday-e Salehin.

After the prosecutor of the Special Revolutionary Court read the charge sheet regarding the crimes and the hostile deeds of the

above accused, the judicial panel gave him a chance to read a written statement and present a verbal defense against the charges.

The accused, speaking at the judicial session and in a free and democratic atmosphere, confessed to and admitted all the charges against him, and he described all his criminal deeds committed against the DRA Government, the toiling and Muslim people of Kabul City and its surroundings, destruction of the equipment and weapons of the DRA Armed Forces. He recounted his crimes one by one.

The judicial panel of the DRA Special Revolutionary Court, after detailed consideration of the charge file and the confession of the accused, made the following decision in accordance with the provisions of Articles 221, 271, 273 and paragraph 275 of the DRA Criminal Procedure code:

Abdul Qahar, son of Gol Zaman, aged 27, inhabitant of Shewaki, Bagrami district, Kabul Province, was sentenced to death in accordance with Paragraphs 1 and 6 of Article 8 of the

Criminal Penal law for offenses against the military preparedness of the armed forces, and Articles 175 and Paragraph 1 of Article 395 of the DRA Penal Code for abandoning his border regiment, joining the counterrevolutionary band of Yunis Khalis, perpetrating hostile deeds and armed uprising against the DRA Government, murdering innocent people, setting fire to government vehicles and, attacking government enterprises and security posts. He must also pay for the losses inflicted on public property and for the destruction of public institutions in accordance with Article 6 of the Penal Code.

The above decision is applicable to Abdul Qahar, in accordance with the last paragraph of Article 58 of the DRA Constitution, subject to the approval of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium.

The seized materials and equipment were impounded in accordance with Article 119 of the Penal code. The court decision regarding compensation for losses and the impounding of seized materials and equipment is final in accordance with Article 11 of the law of the Special Revolutionary Court.

Gandhi: Intelligence Not Involved in Air Disaster*HK190958 Hong Kong AFP in English 0953 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 19 (AFP)— Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today denied Indian intelligence officials' prior involvement in the Air India Plane crash last June in the Atlantic. He told Parliament's upper house during a question hour that there was "no question of any of our intelligence people being involved."

He had intervened in the session when Foreign Minister Baliram Bhagat was asked about Canadian press reports that Indian intelligence personnel were aware of the impending air disaster in which all 329 people on board were killed.

India suspects the crash was due to sabotage by Sikh militants living abroad.

The latest official statement said an ongoing judicial probe here had linked the crash to a bomb blast that occurred in Tokyo's international airport the same day.

Canada's Clark Leaves Delhi for Islamabad 19 Dec*BK191348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] The Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, Mr Clark, has said that the Sikh extremists based in Canada pose a serious threat not only to the integrity of India and Canada but also to relations between the two countries. In an exclusive interview to AIR [All India Radio] Special correspondent Harish Sehgal at the Delhi airport this afternoon before his departure for Islamabad, Mr Clark expressed his government's determination to use all powers within the Canadian law to curb their activities.

Pakistani Gives Update on Trial of Plane Hijackers*BK180952 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] Pakistan has informed India that the trial of the hijackers of the Indian Airlines plane, now going on in Lahore, will be completed and judgment delivered by the end of this month. This was conveyed by the Pakistan minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, during the official level Indo-Pakistan talks in New Delhi.

He also expressed regret at the assault on two Indian diplomats by Canadian Sikhs at Gurdwara Dera Sahib in Lahore last month.

Delhi Radio Commentary on Ziaul Haq Visit*BK191429 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Commentary By political commentator S. Vishwam]

[Text] President Ziaul Haq's visit to New Delhi on 17 December, brief though it was, turned out to be highly productive for

Indo-Pakistan relations. President Zia Spent 6 hours in the Indian capital on his way back home from a visit to Sri Lanka and Maldives, at the invitation of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The visit provided the opportunity for the two heads of government to meet each other and also for the delegations of the two countries to exchange notes on the progress of the normalization process. On returning to Pakistan the same night, President Zia confirmed that his visit to Delhi was very successful and his meeting with Mr Rajiv Gandhi the most significant event in the recent past.

The two leaders have met six times in the last 15 months. All these meetings were designed to devise measures to restore confidence in Indo-Pakistan relations and eliminate the irritants in bilateral ties. Although differences remained in several areas, the meetings have helped to reduce tension and widen understanding.

Relations between the two neighbors have often been marked by mutual suspicion and mistrust. Indian spokesmen, from the prime minister downward, have repeatedly asserted that India is vitally interested in promoting friendship with Pakistan and improving relations. Some factors have come in the way of healthy development of ties. For instance, India has felt that the supply to Pakistan by the United States of sophisticated and lethal arms beyond the legitimate defense needs of Pakistan has introduced a qualitative change in regional stability and security. Another problem has been Pakistan's nuclear ambitions and its concerted attempt to attain nuclear capability. Available evidence points to Pakistan already having developed a nuclear weapon or being on the verge of doing so. Although India attained nuclear capability 11 years ago, it has refrained from building a weapon system since it does not want to proliferate the nuclear arms race. Although Pakistan has denied that it is engaged in weapon building, it has been difficult to accept its version because of the overwhelming evidence adduced by different sources.

Of late, a campaign had been launched in the Pakistan media that India plans to attack the nuclear installation at Kahuta. Differences have also persisted because of India's suspicion of Pakistani encouragement to anti-Indian terrorists across the border. It was against such a background that President Zia's visit took place.

As a first step toward establishing confidence in each other, the two leaders agreed at the end of their Delhi talks that neither would attack the other's nuclear facilities. The suggestion for such an understanding came from Mr Rajiv Gandhi. They also agreed to accelerate the pace of normalization through discussions at various levels. The approach was to be two-pronged—firstly, areas of agreement would be extended and, secondly, attempts would be made to eliminate irritants. The agreement not to attack nuclear installations was verbal and would be concretized shortly by officials.

Additionally, the finance ministers of the two countries would meet to prepare a package of economic cooperation and trade development. This will be followed by the resumption of talks on a no war pact or a friendship treaty. Before the Indo-Pakistan joint commission meets at the ministerial level in Islamabad in February, the four subcommissions will have their meetings—

two of them convened in Islamabad and two in New Delhi. The two leaders also approved a meeting of the defense secretaries of the two governments to work out a solution to a dispute over the Siaichin glacier in Ladakh region.

President Zia assured Mr Gandhi that his country was against terrorism and would tackle the problem of terrorists in determined manner. He declared that he would ensure that agreements reached by them would be implemented by Pakistani officials in letter and spirit. The two leaders were so satisfied at the nature of their talks and with the agreements that a possibility of Mr Rajiv Gandhi visiting Islamabad in the first half of next year has emerged distinctly.

Good relations between India and Pakistan are a vital factor in South Asian stability. It is to be hoped that the outcome of President Zia's visit would speed up the normalization efforts.

Further Reportage on Assam Election Results

AGP Nears Absolute Majority

BK191605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Excerpts] In the Assam assembly elections, the Asom Gana Parishad [AGP] is eight seats short of absolute majority. When reports last came in the party had bagged 55 [as heard] seats out of 104 for which results have been announced. The party is still in the race in a large number of constituencies from which results are awaited.

Here is the latest party position in Assam assembly: Total seats — 126, elections held — 125, results declared — 104; Asom Gana Parishad — 55, Congress-I — 20, United Minorities Front — 12, Independents — 9; Plains Tribal Council of Assam — 3; Congress-S — 3; CPI-M — 2.

Congress-I Concedes Defeat

HK190931 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 19 Dec 85

[By Sabita Goswami]

[Text] Gauhati, India, Dec 19 (AFP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party today conceded defeat in Assam State elections, as a party leader blamed a peace accord signed by Mr Gandhi.

"The Assam Accord signed between central government and the (anti-immigrant) agitation leaders is responsible for this," outgoing state Chief Minister Hiteswar Saikia told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The accord, which paved the way for the elections, "flared up the sentiments of the minorities," he added.

The four-month-old native assam party, the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP), had meanwhile built up a strong lead in the results declared so far, and was confident it would win more than the 64 seats needed for an absolute majority in the state assembly.

"If the winning trend is maintained," leading AGP figure Brighu Pukhan said in a television interview, "we are hopeful to win a total of 80 seats."

The AGP has won more than half the 84 results declared so far, taking 46 seats, well ahead of the Congress (I) with 17.

The United Minority Front (UMF) was in third place with eight, and the rest were shared between independents and seven other parties.

Monday's elections followed an accord between Mr Gandhi and the leaders of a six-year-old protest movement demanding the deportation of an estimated five million alleged illegal Bangladeshi and Nepalese immigrants.

In the last elections in the state in 1983, some 3,500 people were killed, most of them Muslim immigrants.

The strategic northeastern state was left out of general elections a year ago because of the continuing anti-immigration campaign.

Under the accord, some two million alleged illegal immigrants are to be traced and deported.

Minorities in the state, traditional congress voters, had been unhappy with the accord and had turned instead to new parties of their own such as the UMF, analysts said.

Mr Saikia agreed, saying that the UMF had attracted traditional congress voters, and that this was responsible for the congress defeat in many constituencies.

"We will build a new Assam...that is our dream," AGP President Prafulla Kumar Mahanta told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today.

However, observers said here that an election victory for the AGP, which is primarily a students' party, would not mean an end to Assam's problems, as the new state administration would still be faced with the complex immigrant problem.

Many of the settlers are Muslims, who came from Bangladesh attracted by the prospect of free land and a better life here.

"No-one knows how it is going to be solved," one observer said here. It would not be possible to physically deport them all, and even if it were there would still be the problem of where to send them.

"Their original home, Bangladesh, will not accept them and almost all Indian states are already saturated," he added.

Political analysts said that if the AGP did not emerge with an overall majority, Congress (I) would be in with a good chance of forming a coalition government.

The Congress would have a better chance of forming a ministry with the support of independents or the UMF, as the UMF and AGP policies were so different they would be unlikely to combine.

If the AGP were to form a government, Assam would become the eighth state in the 22-state Indian union to have an opposition government.

It would also be the second time in the space of three months that Congress (I) has lost a state election after a peace accord was signed with the government.

The moderate Sikh Akali Dal Party swept to victory in Punjab in September after Mr Gandhi had signed an accord with the moderates putting an end to a frequently-violent campaign for greater autonomy in the state.

Tripura Demands Indo-Bangladesh Antiterrorist Accord
HK201107 Hong Kong AFP in English 1025 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 20 (AFP) — A state on India's frontier with Bangladesh has demanded what it called on Indo-Bangladesh anti-terrorist accord to tackle insurgency on each side of the border, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency reported today.

The agency said that the chief minister of the eastern Indian state of Tripura, Nripen Chakrabarty, had said yesterday in the state capital, Aizawl, that he would ask Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to give serious thought to such an accord to help tackle tribal separatist guerrillas.

The Tripura National Volunteers (TNV) are demanding secession for Tripura and the Mizo National Front (MNF) wants secession for Mizoram, another eastern frontier state.

Mr. Chakrabarty said that the "Forces of Peace," a group of Chakma tribal insurgents in Bangladesh's Chittagong hill tracts, had now begun to surrender and that this should lead Dhaka to suspend "its close links" with the TNV.

He said that this would be the "real test" of Dhaka's friendship with India, the agency reported.

New Delhi has accused Bangladesh of helping the TNV, while Dhaka has accused India of aiding the Chakmas. Each side has denied the other's charge.

Haryana Opposition Parties Protest Punjab Accord
BK191259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] A number of volunteers of the Haryana Sangharsh Samiti [Struggle Committee], led by the Lok Dal leader, Mr Devi Lal, courted arrest at the Boat Club in New Delhi today by violating prohibitory orders. Police had to use teargas to control the crowd and to prevent it from marching toward the parliament house. The demonstrators were protesting against what they said was an unfair deal to Haryana under the Punjab accord.

Earlier at the Ramli Ground, the Samiti workers were addressed by opposition leaders, including Dr Mangal Sen, Mr Karpoori Thakur, and Mr Mahendra Singh Yadav. They passed

resolutions demanding, among other things, taking over by the center of the digging of the Sutlej-Jamuna Link Canal and compensation for constructing a new state capital.

Report Presented to Parliament on Bhopal Leak
BK201010 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] A report on scientific studies of the Bhopal gas leakage says that the needless storage of large quantity of MIC [methyl isocyanate] in very large-size containers for inordinately long period was among the causes of the tragedy. As the reasons mentioned by it include insufficient caution in design, in choice of material for construction, as well as inadequate control on systems of storage and in quality of stored material, also there was a (?lack) of necessary facilities for quick and effective disposal of material exhibiting instability. The report has been compiled as a result of studies by Dr S. Varadarajan, secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and other scientists. It was presented to Parliament today. It says it appears in retrospect that the factors that led to the tragedy and its heavy toll existed in the unique properties of very high reactivity, volatility, and inhalation toxicity of MIC.

Suspected Sikhs Kill Hindu Teacher in Punjab
HK190536 Hong Kong AFP in English 0525 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 19 (AFP) — Suspected Sikh separatists riding a motorcycle have shot dead a Hindu schoolteacher in Punjab, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said today.

The assailants sprayed bullets on Raj Pal near Ferozepur yesterday as he returned home from work and then fled, PTI quoted Amritsar Police Chief S.S. Virk as saying.

A revival of Sikh separatist-related violence in Punjab in the past two months has left 33 people dead and 70 wounded in 127 violent incidents, federal parliament was told earlier this week.

A section of India's 16 million Sikhs have been campaigning for greater political autonomy for their rich northern farming state.

Sikh moderates withdrew the campaign earlier this year after an accord with the federal government, but militants rejected the deal and vowed to carry on their campaign for a separate Sikh homeland.

Delhi Reports Maharashtra Distillery Explosion
BK200938 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] In Maharashtra, at least 4 persons were killed and over 40 injured, 8 of them critically, in an explosion at a distillery at (Sakherbari) in Ahmednagar district last evening. One person died on the spot, while three others died of injuries later in the hospital. According to police sources, the explosion occurred when the stored acetaldehyde leaked.

AFP Reports Second Distillery Explosion

HK200514 Hong Kong AFP in English 0509 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 20 (AFP) — Five persons were killed and 45 others injured in an explosion at a distillery in Nasik, near the west coast city of Bombay, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said today.

The explosion yesterday evening occurred when acitoldhyde stored at a distillery of the Organo Chemical Ltd. leaked, PTI quoted Nasik's deputy inspector general, Arvind Inamdar, as saying.

Reports did not say what was produced at the distillery, which belongs to the Godavari sugar mill.

Nasik is 100 kilometers (60 miles) northeast of Bombay.

Canada's Clark Arrives in Islamabad on 3-Day Visit
BK191655 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 19 Dec 85

[Text] The Canadian foreign minister, Joe Clark, who is heading a delegation of parliamentarians and businessmen, arrived in Islamabad today on a 3-day visit to Pakistan. Talking to newsmen at the airport, Clark said he will review bilateral, political, and economic relations. He will also inaugurate some development projects completed with Canadian assistance. He said his current visit reflects the importance of continued cooperation between the two countries. During this visit to Pakistan, Clark will also meet with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, and other leaders. He will also visit the Afghan refugees' camp to personally study the conditions of refugees living in Pakistan. The Canadian foreign minister was received at the airport by, among others, the minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani.

Radio Reports on 4th day of Indirect Afghan Talks
BK191533 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
 19 Dec 85

[Text] The sixth round of the UN-sponsored indirect talks on Afghanistan continued in Geneva for the 4th day today. The UN secretary general's special representative on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, held another meeting with the Pakistani delegation this afternoon. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting observers at the UN European headquarters in Geneva, said the meeting was very important as the 5-day-long indirect talks on Afghanistan are nearing conclusion. The current round of indirect negotiations has been devoted mostly to discussions of how to give final shape to the fourth document relating to a timeframe for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan. This document is linked with three other elements on which agreement has been reached. Cordovez had separate meetings with the two delegations yesterday.

JANG Editorial

GF191618 Lahore JANG in Urdu 16 Dec 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The Most Important Round of the Geneva Talks"]

[Text] The 6th round of talks to find a solution to the Afghanistan problem have begun in Geneva. Five rounds of indirect talks between Pakistani and Afghan representatives have already been held, but this round has an importance not associated with any

of the previous rounds. The obvious reason for this importance seems to be the failure of the previous five rounds. Any progress in the talks would depend on keeping in view past disappointments and aspirations for the future.

This round is being considered particularly important because certain far-reaching changes have taken place on the world level on the question since the 5th round of talks in August. The most important event was the recent summit talks between President Reagan and Gorbachev in Geneva. Despite neither of the two leaders having clearly said anything on the subject, there have been signs that there is some understanding between them on a peaceful solution to the Afghanistan question.

The world's stance on the question is quite clear — the Soviet Union should withdraw its forces from Afghanistan unconditionally so that the nonaligned status of the country can be restored. Afghan refugees should return to their homes safely and in an honorable way, and the Afghan people should be given the opportunity to elect a regime in Afghanistan of their own choice. All along, Pakistan's stance has been the same and it has undergone no change.

The Soviet Union wants guarantees for withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan that would confirm that there would be no foreign intervention in the country once the forces have been withdrawn. Pakistan, the United States, and the PRC are being accused of supporting the Afghan mujahidin against the Karmal regime.

We should keep in mind that the Soviet Union stresses that such guarantees should come first of all from the United States. Although the United States has long since given such assurances verbally, no written assurance has been presented. However, after the Geneva summit President Reagan expressed his readiness to give this assurance in writing as well. Moreover, in a letter to the UN secretary general, he has offered this assurance.

It seems that the greatest obstacle preventing a peaceful solution to the Afghanistan problem has been removed by this letter. For this reason, the 6th round of indirect talks at Geneva has gained great importance. It is now for the Soviet Union to take a step forward. The peace-loving circles around the world hope that the Soviet Union will take this step in the interest of regional and world peace. Such a step would end the danger currently facing world peace.

Khamene'i Reaffirms Aim To Oust Iraqi Regime

GF201249 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Friday Arabic sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran Friday imam, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, at Tehran University on 20 December — recorded]

[Text] Peace be upon our Muslim nation throughout the world. Peace be upon our Arab brothers and sisters everywhere. The sweeping popular move by the trained and armed forces throughout the Islamic Republic to the battlefronts amid enthusiastic mass support has terrified the aggressor and expansionist regime. Such a state of fear is manifested in the childish behavior and failure of the political and military policy of the leaders of that regime. The international oppressors who instigated the aggression and encouraged and implemented it are, like the rulers of Baghdad, also frightened and terrified.

The all-out mass moves toward the fronts stems from our people's belief in the following tenets:

1. The Iranian people are in the right and have been wronged and have done nothing to justify the attack by the international oppressors on the revolution and the return to Islam and independence. Almighty God has said: "Leave to fight is given to those who have been attacked for they have been wronged; surely God is able to grant them victory." [Koranic verse]

2. The Iranian people's firm belief that if they succumb to pressure and fail to decisively oppose aggression they would not be able to safeguard their great goals represented by the revolution and the regime that stems from their will. Almighty God has said: "Do not faint and sue for peace, for you have the upper hand." [Koranic verse]

3. The Iranian people's profound faith in their ability to confront the aggressor enemy who is backed in various fields by tyrannical forces, and their confidence that any people who arise to win their rights will be supported and championed by God. God's support is superior to the support of the pompous and arrogant forces of the world. God has said: "God is your guardian and he is the best supporter." [Koranic verse] God has also said: "We champion our messengers and the believers."

4. The great confidence which the masses have in their officials, their heartfelt attachment to them, and their total readiness to support them in all fields, including the field of war and bitter defense. It is natural that a people who are surging forward with such faith and such motives are bound to succeed.

To face the negative effect of the tide of jihad on the morale of the Iraqi regime and Army and on the protectors of the Iraqi regime, we are currently witnessing abortive moves that are doomed to failure, particularly as there is an apparent trend among the Arab neighbors in the Persian Gulf to understand Iran's position better and view it more realistically than in the past.

The Iraqi and Jordanian regimes were alone among the Arab and Muslim countries that voted in the ridiculous farce for the draft resolution on human rights when it was debated at the United Nations at the request of the United States and Zionism. When one examines the incident one will clearly see the failure of the Iraqi regime and its protectors to regain their collapsing morale. It is a fact that the war that has been imposed upon us is bound to end some day. However, there is another fact — that the war will end, with the help and strength of God and with the firm determination and unlimited readiness for sacrifice which He bestowed upon the Iranian people and their officials, only with the victory of the Islamic Republic and the Iranian people regaining their usurped rights. The great moral wealth devoted by our people to defend their revolution in the war will not make them accept any other conclusion to the war. The best proof of this is the conversion of the masses to the battlefronts after more than 5 years of the war which the enemies expected would with time exhaust the Iranian people and wear them out. Therefore, all who are seeking to end the war and who are studying ways to end it and putting forward plans to do so must ponder the undeniable fact that the Iranian people cannot, under any circumstances, accept anything other than the removal of the ruling clique that controls Iraq. Peace and God's mercy and benedictions be upon you.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. "Say He is one God, God the everlasting refuge, who has not begotten, and has not been begotten, and there is no one equal to him." [Koranic verse]

Tehran Radio Report

LD201221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] Coincident with seminary and university unity day and the death anniversary of martyr Dr Mohammad Mofatteh, Muslim compatriots in most parts of the country today observed the political-religious Friday prayer ceremonies. The Central News Unit reports that the Muslim citizens of Tehran also observed these rituals by their extensive presence at Tehran University and surrounding thoroughfares under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the Friday imam of Tehran.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the Friday imam of Tehran, in his Friday sermon referred to the anniversary of martyrdom of Ayatollah, Dr Mofatteh and seminary and university unity week, and paid tribute to the martyr Mofatteh. He then turned to the motion about the so called violation of human rights in Iran tabled at the UN General Assembly and described the extensive presence of marchers of Karbala on the front as one of the effective factors which had caused the enemies of the Islamic revolution to make that move [at the United Nations]. The president then noted the fact that most Islamic countries, Asian states, and progressive countries had refused to respond positively to that move and addressing the UN secretary general and other UN officials said: What we are objecting to is why the United Nations should allow states such as the United States, Britain, France, Israel, and Canada, which

are main violaters of human rights on an international scale, to do such things.

The Friday imam of Tehran referred to recent remarks by the UN secretary general to the effect that America is trying to blackmail the United Nations. He said: America, along with all other military and political powers in the world, is trying to blackmail nations and governments. It is in their nature to blackmail others. If the United Nations wants to enjoy any respect among nations and be worthy of an international assembly it should not surrender to such acts of blackmail, in the same way that the Iranian nation refused to surrender. But, unfortunately, the United Nations has surrendered to blackmail and America and its agents were able to stage a ridiculous, worthless, and repetitious show.

The president then described the history of violations of human rights and colonialism of those countries that voted for the motion on the so called violation of human rights in Iran. He said: These countries' records contain repeated violations of human rights and of aggression against the rights of nations. Some of the other countries, because they are under U.S. influence in that stage-managed show, also took part in that show. The Friday imam of Tehran added: For that reason, a resolution voted for by such countries failed to win the credit and the respect they had sought for it. Even if that resolution had condemned the Islamic Republic of Iran, it would have been worthless and unimportant to us. What I am saying is that if the United Nations wants to regain its credibility and respect it should deal with the instances of violations of human rights in the world.

Continuing his sermon, the president referred to the visit to the Soviet Union by the head of the warmongering Iraqi regime and to the Soviet president's remarks to the effect that continuation of the war until victory was illogical and irrational. He addressed Soviet leaders and said: Decisions of matters of this kind rest with our own people; it is up to our own people to decide whether or not what they are doing is logical and rational. No one else may make that decision; it has nothing to do with others; no one should interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, particularly a nation such as ours which is so firmly and courageously present on the scene. It is not illogical or irrational for us to fight an aggressor. It is not irrational for us to seek to eliminate a dangerous element in order to bring about peace and tranquillity in the region. It is irrational and illogical to play host to a warmongering criminal, to let him into their country and to try to help him.

We would like to see the Soviet leaders avoid making the mistake they committed 2 or 3 years ago. At that time the Soviet Union helped Iraq with arms. They have seen the effect of that on our people. When our people feel others are trying to help their enemy they will become more determined and single-minded. Interference of foreign countries in the war will not weaken or intimidate our people. On the contrary, their resolve and determination will be increased tenfold, and we are again saying now that our people will not stop even for one minute in their course toward final victory. Punishment of an aggressor is a rational thing to do, a move in the service of peace. Punishment of an aggressor will help extinguish the flame of war and sedition. We would like the Soviet Union not to do anything rash, not to strengthen our

enemy, not to threaten our relations with our northern neighbor by such actions. Our nation will defend its rights. It will be the enemy of its enemies and friend of its friends.

How can you, who have an irrational and illogical presence in Afghanistan and who are trying to determine the fate of a nation by force, comment on a nation's war and that nation's defense of its revolution? The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council stressed: We are telling the whole world that as long as the present Iraqi regime remains, peace between us and Iraq will not be possible. They [the Iraqis] are warmongers. Their existence is a threat to our revolution. So our war until the elimination of the Iraqi ruling circle will be continued.

Warning to Soviets

LD201329 Tehran IRNA in English 1324 GMT 20 Dec 85

["President Cautions Soviets Against Propping Up Iraqi Dictator" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 20 IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Friday cautioned the Soviet Union that any decision in connection with the Iraqi imposed war will be made by the Iranian people. He said it was the Iranians who should reserve the right to say what they were doing was rational or not. "This has nothing to do with others and they should not interfere in the affairs of any country, particularly a nation like Iran who are so present in the war fronts," the president said. Addressing Soviet leaders. The president also reiterated that the war will continue until the elimination of the present ruling clique in Iraq.

These remarks by the Friday prayers leader of Tehran, came in the wake of comments by the Soviet leader describing the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war as irrational and mindless. The Soviet President Andrey Gromyko said this when he met with Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn in Moscow this week. During Saddam Husayn's surprise visit to the Soviet Union, he desperately appealed to the Soviets to take steps in putting an end to the war he himself has imposed on the Iranian nation.

"What is irrational and unjust is to invite and receive a war criminal (Saddam Husayn) and let him enter their country (Soviet Union) or possibly give him aid," the president said during his Friday prayers sermons at the Tehran University attended by a huge crowd of Muslim worshippers.

The president said Iran preferred that the Soviet leaders would not repeat the blunder they made two or three years ago. At the time, he said, Moscow supplied Iraq with arms but witnessed the impact of this aid on the Iranian people. He said the Soviets saw for themselves that when the Iranians feel the threat of intervention in their affairs by another country or see their enemies have become militarily equipped, they become more determined and resolute. He said the intervention of foreign powers not only did not weaken the Iranian people but rather they become more strong in determination when they see others want to strengthen their enemies.

"We hereby announce that our people will not stop for a moment until the ultimate victory (is achieved) and when an aggressor is

to be removed such shuttles (Saddam's visit to Moscow) will have no effect," the chief of the Supreme Defence Council stated. He described the punishment of the aggressor as a rational act in the service of man, and said it would help eliminate the cause of sedition and return peace to the region.

He said the Islamic Republic was willing that the Soviet Union would act judiciously and would not strengthen Iran's enemies and not harm her relations with Islamic Iran. The Iranian nation, he said, was defending its right. "We are hostile towards the enemies and friendly with the friends," he said.

Addressing Soviet leaders, the president asked them how could they comment on the defensive war of a nation (Iran) "when you yourselves are present in Afghanistan unwarranted and want to determine the fate of that nation."

"We tell the entire world that as long as the Iraqi regime is in power, the issue of peace should not be raised and our nation will fight on till victory. Peace between Iran and Iraq will be impossible with the presence of Saddam Husayn and those around him. And our war will continue until the elimination of the present ruling clique in Iraq."

Elsewhere in his sermons President Khamene'i lauded Iran's Muslim combatants, the armed forces, 'marchers to Karbala' and the masses for their determination to fight on to an eventual victory in the Iraq-Iran war saying that both the Baghdad regime and Iran's other enemies are now at a loss as to how they should interpret Iran's more recent moves in relation with the war.

Khamene'i said one reason why the army and its auxiliary forces in Iran are so uniquely united in spirit and outlooks is that they take orders not from self-seeking commanders and power magnates as is wonted in other parts of the world, but rather from a religious and divine person (Imam Khomeyni).

The president said the world is not capable of understanding the why and how of the unshakable unity between the various branches of the armed forces in Iran and that in their confusion political analysts have at times wrongly foreseen impending attacks by Iran, some even going so far as guess the date and manner of such attacks. He said the presentiment of one fateful attack by Iran has long since been a fixation in the minds of Iran's enemies crippling their capacity for coping with any such attack.

Elsewhere in his sermon and referring to a UN resolution this month critical of Iran for alleged disregard of human rights by the Islamic Government Khamene'i said the resolution was the end result of "a farcical show conducted by Washington." And blasted the United Nations for allowing Washington "and the meanest characters of the capitalist world, and of the capitalist governments" to exploit the international organizations for staging a play by governments themselves notorious for disrespect to the human rights."

The president said as a result of the resolution on the human rights in Iran the United Nations had lost its remaining credibility. "If the United nations were really concerned about the status of the human rights in the world," said Khamene'i, "it would do good to look for mass massacres of the human beings

by corrupt governments, such as the killing of Palestinians in Jordan, the mass killings of Lebanon's people by the Phalanges and the servants of Washington and Israel, the mass graves in Latin America."

Khamene'i said before bothering to deal with the status of the human rights in the world countries the United Nations would be wise to also observe the behaviour of the British Government in Northern Ireland and elsewhere in the world and the warm reception and support Paris has been giving to "international criminals." "The group of the thick-necked in the world," said the president, "are bent on bullying and blackmailing the governments and world bodies such as the United Nations. But we protest against those organizations which submit to them and which pay hush money to Washington."

Khamene'i said among the governments which had proposed the draft of the resolution were Holland and Belgium which he described as "Europe's colonialists by profession." He said the two are the countries known for having laid the foundation of colonialism in other parts of the world and for having initiated a systematic "invasion of the rights of the human beings by robbing their resources." He said another government which had proposed the resolution against Iran was Paris which is now "the haven for the filthiest and the most immoral people of the world such as the monafeqins (members of outlawed MKO organizations) and for a people who in their radio broadcasts teach their audience how to build hand-made bombs" to kill worshippers at prayers in Iran.

President Khamene'i said voters for the U.N. resolution had come from the capitalist governments which had lost most as a result of the Islamic movement... "such countries as Honduras, Chile, and El Salvador known as the dagger-wielders of the Latin America upheld the resolution, but despite 50 votes for the resolution it did not get as many votes as some had expected..."

Lebanese Islamic Leader Meets With Officials

Meets With IRGC Minister

LD162347 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 15, IRNA — Iran's minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), Mohsen Rafiqdust, Sunday renewed Islamic Republic's support for the revolutionary movement of Lebanese Muslims in their confrontation with the Zionist regime and the global arrogance. Rafiqdust was meeting with the leader of the Islamic Towhid Movement, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, and an Amal militia and Hizballah joint delegation here Sunday.

Rafiqdust also told them that the global arrogance was afraid of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, which he described as defender of oppressed nations of the world.

Velayati Meeting

LD200623 Tehran IRNA in English 1837 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 19, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told the leader of the Islamic Towhid movement Shaykh

Sa'id Sha'ban Thursday that the Islamic Republic of Iran believes in the defence of the Muslims as a religious duty. Velayati said although the Islamic Republic has difficulties because of the Iraqi imposed war, it will continue to back Lebanese Muslims.

He said the Islamic world is being attacked through Afghanistan and Palestine by the superpowers. "The two Islamic lands are occupied," he said.

Velayati added that the main objective of all Lebanese Muslims should be to fight the Zionist regime, while other Muslims should aid them to achieve their aim.

Shaykh Sha'ban said that the Islamic Republic is categorically supporting the deprived and the Muslims around the world. He added that Iran has proved this policy in the Tripoli crisis.

Sha'ban said that when Muslims were being killed in Tripoli no one protested and the Islamic Republic was the only country which defended the innocent Muslims.

Foreign Minister Heads Delegation to Libya

LD201028 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 20, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati heading a political delegation left here for Tripoli, Libya, Friday [20 December] to participate in the third meet of foreign ministers from Iran, Syria and Libya.

Velayati told reporters at the airport prior to his departure that he and his Syrian and Libyan counterparts are to review issues relevant to the Palestinians and the Iraqi-imposed war in this four-day meet.

The cooperation among Iran, Syria and Libya in the non-aligned summit meet to be held in Zimbabwe next autumn would be among other topics to be discussed at the meet, Velayati said.

He added that they will also discuss problems of African countries and plots of the global arrogance against the Islamic nations.

IRNA: Rafsanjani Addresses Islamic Educators

LD200618 Tehran IRNA in English 1914 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 19, IRNA — Majlis speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Thursday urged Iran's scientific associations to study method of Islamic educational centers such as the Egyptian University of Al-Azhar.

Rafsanjani said that the educational centers of the Islamic Republic should be acquainted with the world's scientific associations and must study ways of exchanging information with them.

The Majlis speaker made this statement in the three-day unity seminar held between the universities and theological schools.

Speaking on plans for an international Islamic university in Iran, Rafsanjani said that the Islamic Republic ought to pave the way to train researchers from other Islamic countries.

The speaker added that the Islamic Republic will use the universities as a means to spread the cultural movements of the Islamic revolution.

The unity seminar wound up issuing a resolution in which the Iraqi imposed war was said to be the main issue in the country. It warmly welcomed the election of Ayatollah Montazeri as the future leader of the Islamic Revolution.

Tabriz Azeri on Foreign Radios, U.S. Policy

*GF191413 Tabriz International Service in Azeri
1830 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[From "What Foreign Radios Are Saying" program]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the continuing struggle against the Islamic Revolution by the imperialist media organs since the first stages of the establishment of the Islamic Republic in Iran broadened more than ever as a result of the resolution the UN General Assembly adopted against Iran last week. According to a pre-planned conspiracy, the foreign and dependent radios adopted a common line, after the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on 13 December claiming that Iran has not been heeding human rights, to propagate malicious charges of the organization on a large scale.

On 14 December, Tel Aviv radio, operated by the regime occupying Palestine, stated the following in its report on the convocation of the UN General Assembly.

For the first time, the UN General Assembly has seriously (?cautioned) two Asian countries — Pakistan and Afghanistan — concerning the question of human rights violations. The UN General Assembly resolution stated that the United Nations expresses concern over the violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, which have been reflected in a report drafted by the UN Human Rights Commission.

The Voice of America, BBC, and Cologne Radio also announced the adoption of the UN General Assembly's hostile resolution in similar reports on 14 December. However, what exposes the dependent nature of foreign radios is that none of them have said anything about the adoption of the UN resolution based on the votes of only one-third of the members of the United Nations. Only a few members of the United Nations — that is only one-third — voted in favor of the resolution. The overall number of supporters for this resolution clarifies the legal credibility of the document. Regardless of all the effort they made, the Western allies of U.S. imperialism and the White House have only been able to forge the adoption of the resolution by the United Nations with very few votes.

As far as they are concerned, they should be proud of their political achievement. However, as also stated by the Islamic Republic of Iran's UN representative, the submission of the draft resolution and its adoption by the UN General Assembly consti-

tute the outcome of unfounded accusations related to illegal political objectives. Undoubtedly, the Muslim people of the Islamic Republic of Iran will change their positions against countries which have voted in favor of the resolution.

The political conspiracies hatched by U.S. imperialism and its dependent agents against the arisen people of the world are currently being directed against the Islamic Revolution and the Muslim people of Iran under the guise of human rights. These conspiracies have been observed not only in the UN General Assembly, but also in the White House. Speaking at a special ceremony in the White House on the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, President Reagan discussed what he termed the question of human rights violations in various countries, including Iran.

In a report on the ceremony, Voice of America stated the following on 12 December:

In a statement on human rights, President Reagan has stated that the Islamic Republic of Iran has become the headquarters for people who prefer disruption and military conditions. [passage indistinct]

While describing the concept of adherence to human moves and confidence in governments elected by the people, President Reagan seemed to have forgotten that the foreign policy the White House has been pursuing has been to crush the freedom-loving and oppressed peoples of the world. How can there be confidence in governments which are elected by the people when oppressor regimes such as those in Chile, the Republic of South Africa, El Salvador, and Morocco are fully supported? Isn't the Reagan administration recognizing the racist regime in South Africa as the elected government of millions of oppressed blacks in that country? The reply to this question is affirmative. Nothing else can be expected from Reagan, who considers the punishment of the terrorists who shed the blood of Iranians as a violation of human rights and who considers the counterrevolutionaries in Nicaragua as the fighters of the people.

Commentary on Improved African-Israeli Relations

GF191852 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Since 1982, the Arab countries have sat idly watching the African train head toward the Israeli station. After Zaire vowed allegiance to the Zionist house in 1982, Liberia followed suit in 1983. The Ivory Coast joined the convoy in 1985. Other African countries are about to restore relations with the Zionist mini-state — Cameroon and Togo. Before a few years elapse, the Zionists will have what they had, even more. They will replay their control role on the African Continent.

Despite these events having little value, they are in fact a disaster to us in the Islamic world.

Muslim governments are idly watching the African Continent heading quickly toward Israel. This and other issues always

present to us the following question: Who is responsible for this deterioration? Is it right that we blame the African countries heading toward the enemy or should we blame some Arab countries which have paved the way for these countries' efforts with Israel? Those who joined the peace settlement caravan are those who opened the door for the African Continent to jump over the Islamic-Zionist conflict. Those who joined the Camp David caravan and those who are about to join it also gave the green light to some African countries to reconsider their political relations with the Zionist enemy. They gave the justification to all who want to make friends with the enemy.

The questions which the Zionist moves toward the African Continent raise are: Where are the Arab countries? Where are Muslims? And where is the Gulf money? Why this idleness while watching those who are heading toward Israel?

Iraqi Regime's Measures Against Kurds Reported

GF191254 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 19 Dec 85

[Text] The Iraqi regime has begun large-scale military operations in Kurdish areas in northern Iraq to crush the resistance and steadfastness of the struggling Kurdish forces. The Iraqi regime is also using Jordanian troops. The regime began these operations in early September 1985 when a large force of the so-called popular army besieged al-Sulaymaniyah and Irbil and stormed houses in the two cities to search for weapons and army deserters who were dissatisfied with the regime.

Reports from inside Iraq have indicated that during these operations many persons were arrested and their houses demolished with bulldozers. The fate of a majority of those arrested is not known. The corpses of some were found in villages near the two cities.

Reports added that more than 200 Irbil citizens were killed during the bombardment of the city on 5 November, and more than 900 pupils, aged 10-14 years, were transferred from their schools in al-Sulaymaniyah to another school building on the outskirts of the city. The school is now used as a prison.

In the past, the Iraqi regime would arrest youths to force their brothers who have joined Kurdish revolutionary organizations to abandon their bases in the mountains and surrender to government forces.

Meanwhile Kurdish sources in Iraq have stated that the youths who are currently being detained in al-'Amarah are estimated to number several hundred. Thousands of women, children, and elderly men have been seen among the detainees.

Another report indicates that 160 prisoners were executed without trial in mid-November 1984, days after a demonstration in al-Sulaymaniyah to celebrate the anniversary of Saddam's visit to the city. The demonstration later turned into a demonstration against the Iraqi Government. It has also been reported that King Husayn of Jordan has supplied Iraq with a military unit to participate, along with the Iraqi Army, in the devastation of Kurdish areas.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**Communique No 2,324***LD191828 Tehran IRNA in English 1809 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 19, IRNA — Two Iraqi war planes in Miandoab and Mahabad, Kurdistan Province, and five others in Dasht Azadegan, Khuzestan Province, were forced to flee Iranian anti-aircraft fire Thursday, according to a military communique released by Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here.

In its Communique Number 2324, the Command said that Iran's Muslim combatants killed and wounded at least ten Iraqi soldiers and destroyed several of their bunkers and observation posts in western fronts.

Muslim combatants shelled Iraqi tanks in Qasibeh and Yaqis region, and controlled movement of twenty Iraqi tanks in Nahr-e Anbar region, the Command said.

In the northwestern fronts, combatants prevented Iraqi troops infiltrating their positions in Panjvein region, demolished some of their bunkers, and killed or wounded a group of their soldiers.

In southern fronts, outposts, supply routes and positions of the enemy were under Iran's heavy artillery fire, said the communique.

Elsewhere the communique said Iran's Gendarmerie forces slowed enemy's engineering activities and inflicted substantial casualties and losses on them by bombing their positions.

Meanwhile, the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province suffered slight damages by Iraqi sporadic, long-range artillery fire over the past 24 hours, the communique said.

'Over 100' Soviet Troops Killed in Afghan Attack*LD191921 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 19 Dec 85*

[Text] London, Dec. 19, Irna — Over 100 Soviet troops were either killed or injured in an unsuccessful bid to raid a mujahidin stronghold located between the cities of Herat and Shindad, western Afghanistan.

According to reports here, 3000 Soviet troops supported by tanks and aircraft had launched an attack on the Hezb-e Islami base in Herat Province.

During the clashes which lasted two days, 20 mujahidin were martyred and 65 injured, added the reports.

Further on Mujahidin Operations*GF180841 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Dec 85*

[Text] Afghan Muslim mujahidin killed more than 47 troops of the Soviet occupation and Babrak Karmal regime forces in a series of operations against these forces in (Jiahuri) in central Afghanistan last week. The mujahidin captured three Soviet soldiers and considerable quantities of arms and ammunition during these operations.